A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Saturday, May 13. 1710.

I Have long and in vain complain'd of the Vices of the Clergy, and the abominable Immoralities, which by the defect of Diſcipline, rage now among the Miniſters of the Church of *England*—— With too much impunity; this has been vilely repreſented by our *High-Flying* Gentlemen, to be an Abuſe upon the Church; and Wiſe Dr. *Sacheverell*, was pleaſed moſt abſurdly, upon his Tryal, to bring this, (for want of better) as an Argument, to prove the Danger of the Church—— When really the Danger of the Church lies in theſe very Crimes, raging among the Clergy, and in the laſt Authority of the Church, ſleeping over it—— Neglecting that due Reproof, and Animadverſion, which ſhould, and which alone can preſerve and reſtore the Purity and Glory of her Militant State.

I have often repeated, and I have a Cloud of Witneſſes, even among the beſt Friends of the Church-Miniſters, as well as others, that to review the Diſcipline of the Church, would be to reſcue her from apparent Decay—— And the Church of *England* can never Flouriſh, as her own Friends wiſh, till ſhe purges the Inceſtuous Man, out of her Pulpit.

But I muſt ſay no more it ſeems, of the Immoralities of the Clergy, it is to no purpoſe, they will Rave at me, and call me an Enemy of the Church—— if I do—— They are Wicked, and they will be ſo——

And

And to tell them so, is to have the Fury of their Indignation all upon me, as an Enemy, and a Hater of the Church.

The Knaves will all agree to call you Knave.
Roch. Satyr upon Man.

Well, then I must let them alone there, it seems, but it shall be but for a while—And now I turn my self to another Point, as Fatal as the other, but from whence a new Bomb full of Wild-fire is cast, by this High-Church party, and this is—— That Books full of Blasphemy, Heresie, Error, and dangerous Principles, Destructive to the Christian Religion, are daily spread abroad, among us—— Upon this, some Gentlemen had moved the House of Commons, to Address the Queen for a Publick Fast, to Implore, &c. And they obtain'd the Address, tho' it came with a Sting in it's Tail, which made it far from answering the End of the People, who were fondest of it.

March 24. 1709.

Resolv'd that an Humble Address, be presented to her Majesty, That She will be graciously pleas'd, to Issue her Royal Protection, to appoint a Day of Publick Fasting and Humiliation, to deprecate the Divine Vengeance, which we have just Reason to fear, on Account of those horrid Blasphemies, which have been Vented, Publish'd, and Printed in this Kingdom; notwithstanding Her Majesty's repeated Proclamations, that have been Issued, for putting the Laws in Execution, against the Authors, and the several Prosecutions against such Offenders, many of which Blasphemies, have again in a most Irregular, Extraordinary, and Insolent manner, been Printed, Publish'd, and Dispers'd throughout the Kingdom; to the Scandal of all good Christians, by Dr. Henry Sacheverell, *during the Course of his Tryal.*

This Dr. *Sacheverell*, in his Answer to the Articles of Impeachment Exhibited against him by the *House of Commons*, Alledges, is what he meant by the Danger of the Church—— And this he says really Endangers the Church, &c.

And this several of our Modern Addresses tell us, comes from the same Spring that the Revolution Doctrine of Resistance of Princes comes from —— (Tho' I must tell them, it is a most Impudent, and Abominable Falshood, as will soon appear.)

Yet we the less wonder at it, since 'tis easie to observe, that the most open Patrons of Resistance, are equally Encouragers of Blasphemy and Prophaneness, as if their poisonous Arrows, which have been shot as well against GOD, as his VICEGERENT, have come out of the same Quiver. &c.

Vide the Oxfordshire Address.

Now as there is no better Way, to overthrow any Man in Dispute, than first to grant the Principles he Advances, and from thence to deduce by just Consequence the contrary to what he inferr'd; so I think I shall, fully and fairly, Overthrow all that has been said from this Head; by granting the first part of their Assertion; and as to the Consequences they draw, prove the contrary most effectually; and tho' this should take me up some time, yet it may not be ill spent —— Since from hence, I undertake to prove, that all the Danger pretended to, upon the Church, lies at the Door of those very Men, that pretend to say *she is in Danger.*

In order therefore to do this clearly, I do first, *and to give them all the Advantage over me*, ALLOW, even in Dr. *Sacheverell's* own Words, *That there were never such Outragious Blasphemies against God, and all Religion, Natural as well as Reveal'd; vented Publickly with Impunity, in any Christian Church, or Kingdom in the whole World, as at present in our own*; and all the Danger that any Church can be in, either from the venting those outragious Blasphemies, or from the Impunity they are vented with, I also freely—— grant.

Having granted all this, which I suppose is all they can ask, I then make the following brief Enquiry; and I think it is very necessary, both to make this Enquiry, and to have it very distinctly Answer'd, The Enquiry is this.

Are

Are these Outragious Blasphemies, against God and all Religion, to be found among the Moderate Church-Men, and the *Dissenters*; or among the *High-Church*, and *Non-Jurors*?

And the Just Inference will be found, in this Conclusion; That among whichsoever Party, these Blasphemies, Error, and Impieties are found——— The Church is in Danger from that Party, and none other.

I am of Opinion, that this Enquiry duly follow'd, would tend to open the Eyes of some of the Ignorant People of this Nation, who are strangely impos'd upon, by this Party, with respect to the *Dissenters* in *England*—— And to whom the *Dissenters* are represented, as strange Monsters in Religion, Erroneous Enthusiastic, out of the Way of Eternal Salvation, Schismatick, worse than *Papists*, and such, *to use Dr. Sacheverell's own Words*, as against whom the *Bloody Flag* of Extirpation ought to be lifted up.

Whether this may be any Service to the *Dissenters*, or no, *they must judge*; but I am sure it is of Service to the poor People, to undeceive them; and it is of Service to the general Interest, to bring such over from the *Possession* that now madly rages among us, and make them to abandon a Party of Mad-men, whose study is to divide us, and make our Breaches too Wide to be repair'd.

In this Enquiry, and in order to the bringing this Inference home, to the Guilty Party, I shall for some time employ one part of the Paper——— And because I will give the High Gentlemen all possible Advantage, I fairly invite them, to supply all the Matter they can against the *Low-Church* and *Dissenters*; and from any of their Writings, beginning at the Revolution, to this Day: *We need not go farther back, because the pretence of the Danger of the Church, goes no farther back*——— And I shall most faithfully publish all they can thus supply.

And if after all, I do not prove, that generally speaking, all the *Blasphemies against God, and against Religion, as well Natural, as Reveal'd*, which have been publish'd or vented for these last 20 Years, have been vented or publish'd, by their Party (*Viz.*) By *Non-Jurors*, and *High-Church* Men; then I'll give up the Cause.

Then if I do not prove, that generally speaking, all the Drunkards, Whoremasters, Incestuous, and horribly Debauch'd Persons, who are now to be found among the *English* Clergy, are also among the *High-Flyers*, or the *Non-Jurors*, even one to twenty; then I'll give up that part also.

But if I prove the Affirmative——— The World will soon confess, from whom the Church of *England* is in Danger.

In mustring up the Magazines of Error, Heresie, Blasphemy, and Irreligion, that I am now going to Examin, we shall I know, come upon two Authors, of whom we shall have some Dispute.

1. The Reverend by Office, but Infamous in Practice, *Hickeringill* of *Colchester*, and his Book of Priest-Craft ——— Now as I believe no Party ever own'd him, or he own'd any Party; but was a Person set himself at War with God and Man, by open Impiety, Immoral and Irreligious, yet a Divine; so I cannot justly charge either Side, with any Thing he has Written; I believe there was not a *Dissenter*, or a sober moderate Churchman, that knew him, but would have been very free, to have Voted him to the House of Correction, rather than his Book to the Press: The Man is gone to his own Place, and therefore I say no more of him; but I think our high Gentlemen, must not pretend to charge his Writings to a Party that never own'd either the Books, or the Man; and yet if they should, we may both clear our selves of the Charge, and Balance it abundantly, from the other Side.
2. The Second Author we may have Words about, is that *of the Rights of the Christian Church*——— And tho' I might insist on two Things,

1. That

1. That many of the *Diſſenters*, as well as *Low-Church*, have diſown'd, and rejected ſome things in that Book; and a *Presbyterian* Miniſter, is now writing an Anſwer in particular, to the whole Book; which I believe is very near coming to the Preſs.
2. That after all, it is not determin'd, where the Blaſphemies, Errors, and Hereſies, of that Book lie, and and therefore till the Diſpute has a little farther enlightned us, it will not lie as a Charge on the *Low Church* ſide.

But as to the Blaſphemies, Errors, Hereſies, and Irreligious Prophane Books, that are juſtly to be complain'd of, and which I am now to prove on the *High-Church* Side—— They are ſuch as are undeniable, ſuch as are juſtly exploded, even by the Doctrine of the Church of *England* itſelf, and ſuch as even the Miniſters we are ſpeaking of, will not pretend to Defend.

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LONDON's Medicinal-INFORMER Containing, 1. A brief Enquiry into the antient State of the Practices of Phyſick and Surgery in the World. 2. The preſent State of thoſe Profeſſions in *London*. 3. Quacks, rightly diſtinguiſh'd from other Practiſers, characteriz'd, and chaſtiz'd 4. The Venereal Diſeaſe in its Cauſe, Nature, Signs, Dangerous Effects; beſt, moſt cheap, eaſie, ſafe, and private Methods of Cure, truly repreſented; in order to prevent Peoples being Ruin'd, either by that Diſeaſe, or by unſkilful Pretenders to its Cure. By a *London* Phyſician. *LONDON:* Printed and Sold by *B. Bragg*, at the *Raven* in *Pater-Noſter-Row*. 1710 (*Price* 1 s.)

WHEREAS Many Perſons, that for ſome Months or perhaps Years paſt, had the Misfortune to be Clapt, have ſtill remaining upon them, a ſmall Running or Gleet, altho' the Malignity and other Symptoms of the *Venereal* Diſtemper are perfectly overcome and eradicated; which Running or Gleet, is very dangerous, and if not perfectly cur'd, certainly ruins the Conſtitution, and proves of dreadful Conſequence the the unhappy Patients; and that it is very difficult to be entirely cur'd, and ſeldom is taken off by many of the Practitioners in the *Venereal* Diſeaſe, (tho' Ingenious Men) the moſt eminent Phyſicians do allow. This is therefore to give Notice, that One of great Practice, and very large Experience, having ſome Years ſince found out admirable Medicines, that in a few Days always did, and aſſuredly ever will, without Delay, ſafely take off all manner of Running, or Gleeting, tho' of many Years ſtanding, ſo as never to return again; has now for the Sake of thoſe unfortunate Perſons, that are fatigued with that troubleſome and miſchievous Diſorder, and have ſpent perhaps many Pounds to get cur'd, but in vain, appointed the above-mention'd Excellent Medicines, eſtabliſh'd upon Reaſon, and always ſucceſsful Experience, and which will abſolutely compleat the Cure, ſo as not to break out again; to be Sold only at Mr. *Salkeld's*, at the *Blue Poſt*, next Door to Mr. *Tonſon's* Printing Houſe, in *Earls Court* in *Bow-Street*, near *Covent-Garden* —At a *Guinea* the Parcel, ſeal'd up with a little Book of Directions; wherein are alſo ſet down plain Rules, whereby any Perſon may certainly know, whether the Venom or Malignancy of the *Lues Venerea*, be entirely eradicated or not.

Printed for the Author; and ſold by *John Baker*, at the *Black Boy* in *Pater-Noſter-Row*. 1710.